

says. "At times, I tell them I've discussed this problem with the senator. Sometimes, it isn't true."

A former jewelry store owner and Chamber of Commerce honcho from Norwich, Conn., Israelite is Dodd's pipeline to many of the state's small-business owners. Harry Jackson, a life-long Republican who is the City Council president in Norwich, recalls how difficult it was to get a meeting with officials from the Environmental Protection Agency when the city wanted to build a new firehouse on federal land. "Stan got us in there after just one phone call," says Jackson, who ultimately built the firehouse.

"Things happened." Don Daren says Israelite was a life-saver in 1981, when a state-based paper distributor was trying to secure a \$900,000 umbrella loan from the Connecticut Development Authority. Daren, who owns the Arrow Paper Supply & Food Co., says it was going to take forever for the CDA to process his loan papers so he could buy a new warehouse. "Stanley told them [CDA officials] my problem, and things happened right away," says Daren, whose business has grown from 36 workers then to nearly 200 today. "He has his own constituency. People like Stanley."

Ideally, says veteran Hartford Courant political columnist Don Noel, senators like Dodd would use their clout on Capitol Hill to fix bureaucracies and make them more consumer friendly—eliminating the need for taxpayer-financed ombudsmen like Israelite. But since that goal seems unattainable, Noel figures that Israelite plays a vital role. "If you have something you need the senator to do for you, if anyone can do it, Stanley can," he says.

Israelite admits that he is motivated by a desire to help re-elect Dodd. But he adds: "Part of what drives me is knowing that there's someplace where somebody can go when they are not getting anywhere."

One of the great honors of my life has been to have Stanley by my side during very important moments—almost every important moment in the past 25 years. Many times when I received the applause as the elected official, the Congressman or the Senator, I knew the person who truly deserved the applause was Stan Israelite.

No tribute to Stanley would be complete without mentioning his wonderful family: his beloved and recently departed wife Pauline, who was as great and close a friend as Stanley; his son Michael and daughter-in-law Donna; his son John; his daughter Abby and son-in-law Bill Dolliver; his daughter Mindy and son-in-law Bill Wilkie; his siblings; and, not least, six wonderful grandchildren. To them I extend my heartfelt gratitude for sharing this remarkable man with me and so many others for a quarter century.

There are few words to describe Stanley that would adequately describe what he has done. No words will describe what he meant to countless individuals. For me, there is sadness that he has retired from my office in the Senate, but there is great comfort in knowing he will continue to work on behalf of the people of our State and his community, and will continue to be a close friend and incredibly important part of my life. So today, there is no need for goodbyes but only these words: Thank you, Coach.

When he departed, he said, "I am leaving the Senate, but not CHRIS

DODD." I can say this to Stanley: You may have left my office, but you will never be very far away when I need you for that sound counsel and good advice you gave me for a quarter century. I thank this wonderful man for his service to me, to our State, and to the country.

#### TRIBUTE TO RETIRING SENATORS

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I want to talk about three colleagues that are retiring. There are five, actually, but I will get to them later. I don't want to do it all at once tonight. I will speak about three of them: Senators RICHARD BRYAN, BOB KERREY, and FRANK LAUTENBERG. Later I will talk about CONNIE MACK and Senator PAT MOYNIHAN, who have also made decisions to retire from the Senate. They will be casting their last votes as Members of the Senate in the next three days. I want to take a few minutes in these remaining hours to pay tribute to these three individuals who will be leaving the Congress at the end of this session.

All three of these individuals have served with great distinction in this body. All have made a mark on our Nation for which this country will be grateful for generations to come. All will be missed by those of us who will remain in this body, not to mention by the people of their respective States and people across this country.

Let me first speak, if I may, about my good friend DICK BRYAN of Nevada. Few, if any, of our colleagues have come to this institution having already achieved as much distinction in public service as DICK BRYAN.

Long before he set foot on the floor of this U.S. Senate, he had accomplished a great deal for the people of his beloved State of Nevada. He is the first person in the history of that State to have served as Attorney General, Governor, and then U.S. Senator.

Senator BRYAN did not come to the Senate to sit on passed laurels and achievements. He did what he has done in every position of public trust he has ever held, even going back to his term as the president of his eighth great class at Park Elementary School; he went to work on behalf of the people he was elected to represent.

He went to work for consumers. As the former chairman of the Consumer Affairs Subcommittee of the Commerce Committee, Senator BRYAN successfully fought to have airbags installed in all automobiles sold in the United States. Some viewed this as a highly risky cause to champion as a politician—promoting airbags. It is thought that a Senator should avoid at all costs having his or her name associated with something like airbags.

But Senator BRYAN was not deterred. And today, thanks to him, hundreds of lives are saved every year by a feature that is now standard issue in American automobiles. Every day, when tens of millions of Americans drive to work, school, or the store, they can thank

DICK BRYAN for making sure that their trip will be a safer one than it otherwise would have been.

Senator BRYAN also worked with a large coalition of children's advocates to enact new protections for Internet privacy. He led the fight to strengthen the laws governing the credit reporting industry, which is so crucial to the ability of virtually every American to obtain a home, a car, and a loan for any other modern necessity. And he took the lead in crafting legislation to reduce telemarketing fraud, which preys on so many elderly and other vulnerable citizens.

Aside from his record as a consumer advocate, DICK BRYAN is perhaps best known for his work on behalf of his state and its residents. We are all familiar with the tenacity with which he and his colleague Senator REID have worked to prevent the Nevada Test Site at Yucca Mountain from being designated as an interim storage facility for the nation's nuclear waste. I have myself known the unique pleasure of being visited by Senator BRYAN and Senator REID about this matter.

I have also admired Senator BRYAN's efforts to protect Nevada's lands, particularly in the southern part of the state. Because of his efforts, all proceeds from the sale of lands in that part of the state must be spent within the state. That's a plan that no other state enjoys, and it is a tribute to DICK BRYAN's legislative skills.

I would be remiss if I failed to mention the important work that Senator BRYAN has performed as a member of the Senate Ethics Committee and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

These are important and sensitive committees on which to serve. It is a reflection of the high esteem in which he is held by his colleagues that he served on these committees—and did so, I might add, with discretion and with distinction.

In sum, Mr. President, RICHARD BRYAN has spent his two terms in the Senate working hard and working effectively—for consumers, for his constituents, for a stronger intelligence-gathering function by the United States, and for a stronger United States Senate. He has been an outstanding leader and a good friend. We wish him, his wife Bonnie, their children and grandchildren well as they begin the next phase of their life together.

#### TRIBUTE TO SENATOR KERREY

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, in a few short days, Senator KERREY will also be among our five colleagues bringing to an end their tenure in here in the Senate. I think all of us understand his decision and respect it, but I think we regret it.

Like Senator BRYAN, Senator KERREY is a former governor of his state. Like him, he has served in the Senate for two terms. And like Senator